

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 485  
By Winningham

A RESOLUTION to request the State Board of Education to study the issue of a uniform grading policy for Tennessee schools.

WHEREAS, testimony taken in conjunction with the review of proposed lottery scholarship legislation has revealed that public schools in Tennessee do not have uniform standards correlating numerical and letter grades; and

WHEREAS, the same numerical grade in different systems may translate into either an "A" or "B", or a "B" or "C", depending on the standard applied in each system; and

WHEREAS, a key component of proposed lottery scholarship legislation is the award of a scholarship based, in part, on the maintenance in high school courses of a "B" average; and

WHEREAS, it is inequitable to punish students in systems with higher numerical "B" equivalents relative to students in lower numerical equivalent systems; equally, it is inappropriate to cause systems with higher equivalents to lower those standards in order to place their students in a more competitive position for scholarships; and

WHEREAS, there is now no law or State Board of Education rule governing grading or numerical / letter equivalency; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that the State Board of Education is requested to study the issue of grading in Tennessee public schools with special emphasis on the area of numerical / letter grade equivalency.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State Board of Education report its conclusions and recommendations to the Education Committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate by January 1, 2004.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Douglas Wood, Executive Director of the State Board of Education.